

# Trappe Chronicle

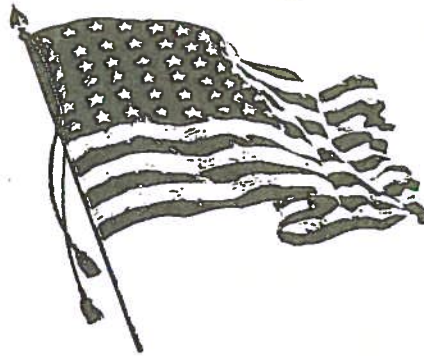
A Publication Of Trappe Historical Society Of The Perkiomen Valley  
Summer 1991 Trappe, Pennsylvania Volume XX, No. 2

## Flag Day Dinner Guests To Hear Milner Report On Exciting Muhlenberg House Discoveries

The general public is invited to the Annual Flag Day Dinner of the Historical Society of Trappe and the Perkiomen Valley.

The meeting will be at Moorehead's Catering Center on First Avenue in Trappe on June 14th at 7:00 P.M. The cost per person is \$15.00 which covers the meal, meeting facilities, decorations and incidental expenses. You may use the form in this newsletter or call Norman Holcombe at 489-7266.

The program will include a



presentation by Mr. John Milner, Historical Restoration Architect, and his research team from the University of Pennsylvania. The graduate students are Joan Brierton, Lisa DiChiera, Mark Isaksan, Sara Korjeff and Paul Sagerman.

Artifacts will be displayed and a slide presentation will be presented to those in attendance.

Just to give you a hint of the extensiveness of the discoveries, we can say that a sufficient amount of material, including a brilliant sample of Prussian Blue, has been discovered to make an excellent restoration of the house to the Muhlenberg Period of 1776 to 1787.

Join us for an exciting evening in honor of our flag and country.

### 1991 Annual Springtime Support For Muhlenberg House

*By Reverend John C. Shetler*

All gifts of money for the Muhlenberg House are used for the restoration, maintenance and administration of the house and property. No money from the Muhlenberg accounts or the Historical Society accounts are used for the personal benefit of board or committee members. At the Society dinner meetings, all officers pay for their own meals. We have raised over \$300,000, so far, for the purchase, restoration and care of the property. Every cent raised has gone for its proper use...in the purchase, restoration and maintenance of the Muhlenberg House.

In the raising of these funds, we have had many luncheon meetings for potential donors. Every one of these luncheon meetings, and, at times, breakfasts have been paid privately. We are very fortunate to have friends in the ownership and management of H-B Instrument of Trappe, who, out of their generosity, have paid for most of the lunch meetings. The remainder of the meetings have been paid by generous private individuals who are dedicated members of the Muhlenberg Committee. In fact, in one case, the invited donor paid the cost of the lunch. It is wonderful to report to you regarding this kind of generous devotion to the cause.

Members and friends of the Historical Society and the Muhlenberg Committee have been generous in their contribution of equipment, labor and material.

With this kind of a record, we can encourage the people of the Perkiomen Valley to generously support the Muhlenberg House with their contributions.

General Chairman for Fund Raising is Dr. Ivan Hess of Trappe. Members of the Community Fund Raising Committee are Louis Krug and Linda Korenkiewicz, Co-chairpersons and Doris Cloud, Mary Ellen DeWane, Elmer Funk, Richard Holcombe, L. Stanford Keck and Stella Styles. They, with the assistance of their spouses, have done the work for community fund raising and Harry Haas of Creative Communications along with Pro Copy have provided professional service. Additionally, Myrna Knaide has provided professional services in assisting in the public relations function of the Muhlenberg Committee.

The general Fundraising Committee includes, in addition to Dr. Hess, Edward Hiergesell, Edmund Mullin, Clay Hess and John Stewart.

-- In Memoriam --

**Will You Help Match  
A \$25,000  
Anonymous Gift?**

A friend who has a deep and abiding interest in the Muhlenberg House as a Heritage Center for Leadership Development has just offered a gift of \$25,000 to be given when others in the community give gifts that will total \$25,000. This comes at an auspicious time when the Community Fund Raising Subcommittee is engaged in their annual appeal to citizens of the area for support.

Appreciation has been expressed to the anonymous donor and confidence expressed that there are many people who will contribute from one dollar to several thousand dollars in response to this challenge.

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**May Grants Received**

Three grants have been received from corporations during the month of May toward the work of the Muhlenberg Center.

Harleysville National Bank contributed \$5,000 toward its five-year pledge. Uniform Tubes also contributed \$1,000 as part of its pledge. Teleflex Foundation has contributed \$1,000 toward the University of Pennsylvania Intern Student who will do historical research this summer as a part of the Milner research of the property. We thank these benevolent friends of the Muhlenberg House.

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**Summer Care**

Summer Grounds Care is being done by Leon Linsenbigler. Spring Grounds clean-up was done by Ivan and Erich Hess. Equipment maintenance by Clay Hess. A large pile of brush was burned by the Trappe Fire Company. All the above is a contribution of the persons involved. The property looks good this summer.

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**Changes May Come  
This Summer  
To Muhlenberg House**

As summer progresses and further engineering studies are accomplished with further removal of 19th and 20th century additions, you may see some changes. To achieve the goal of restoring the house to the period of the Muhlenberg Day and restore it to the original stone, the porch will probably have to be removed.

**Flea Market Items**

—Wanted—

It's time to clean out the cellar, attic and closets. Don't throw out that good "elegant junque."

The Muhlenberg Committee is looking for good items to sell at its annual flea market.

If you wish to donate to this project, simply call Jim Stewart at The Independent, 489-3001.

**Trappe Chronicle**

*Newsletter of the Trappe*

*Historical Society*

John Shetler,

Editor

James Stewart,

Managing Editor

**Dr. William T. Parsons**

Born: 1923                      Died: 1991

Dr. Parsons was a member of the Trappe Historical Society and, with his wife Phyllis, was a benefactor of the society. He was a generous supporter of the Muhlenberg House.

Together the Parsons' compiled a History of Colledgeville and Trappe from writings in *The Independent* by Col. Thomas Swenk and Prof. Henry A. Hunsicker. Not only did the Parsons' contribute the profit from this history to the Muhlenberg House, but they also have given the copyright to the Historical Society of Trappe.

Previously Dr. Parsons presented to the society a Pennsylvania German Banner to be displayed by the society in the Muhlenberg House.

In remembrance of Dr. Parsons, this will be displayed at the Flag Day Dinner.

Dr. Parsons was Professor of History at Ursinus College. He was a former editor of the *Bulletin of the Historical Society of Montgomery County*, from 1961-65 and of *Pennsylvania Folklife* from 1975-82. Dr. Parsons had a long and distinguished record of service to many community and historical organizations throughout eastern Pennsylvania. On a number of occasions, Dr. Parsons was a speaker for the Trappe Society. He was a member of Trinity Reformed Church, Colledgeville and he had chosen for his own funeral service the historic 1866 service of the Reformed Church.

*A grateful Society remembers.*

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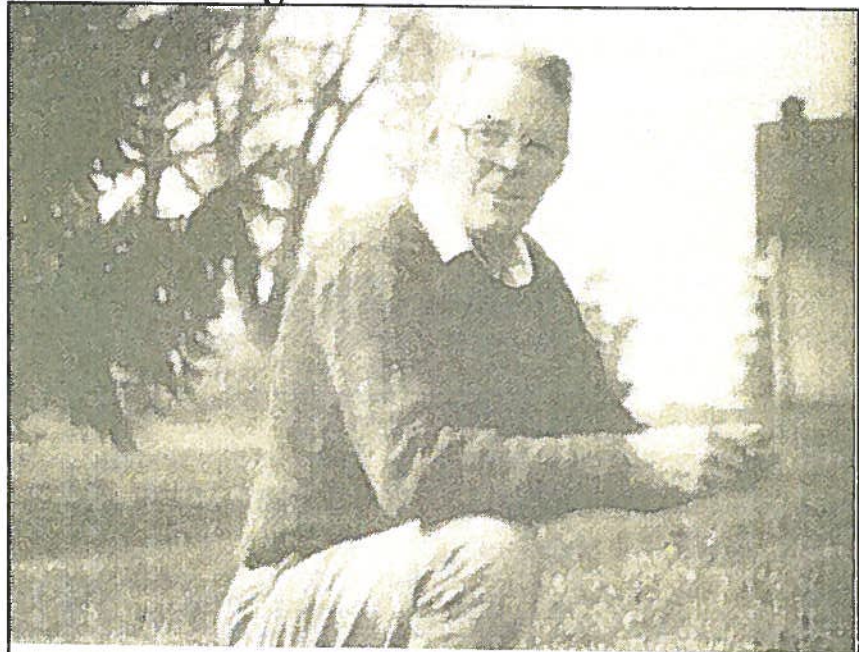
## *Walt Payne & Son Begin Historical Excavations At Muhlenberg House*

Walt Payne and his son, Jeff, recently completed the first step, pouring concrete monuments, for the planned historical excavations on the Muhlenberg House property in Trappe.

Payne, who has recently retired from Philadelphia Electric Co. where he was a surveyor, volunteered to lead the archaeological exploration of the site.

Payne, who is president of a computer firm, Data-Cad, said he plans to complete a topographical survey for the site along with full computer mapping of all explorations at the location.

The archaeological explorations will begin this summer.



*Walt Payne, pictured above, explores some test holes behind the Muhlenberg House. Mr. Payne is optimistic the archaeological study will reveal many on-site discoveries.*

### **The Muhlenberg House Budget 1991**

The following is the adopted expense budget for restoration, maintenance and administration of Muhlenberg House. Money is spent only on approval of the committee and, in contractual matters, also the Board of the Historical Society, *and only when sufficient funds are available.*

**Expenditures**

Interest.....	1,400
Repayment of Line of Credit	15,000
Telephone.....	550
Fuel Oil.....	1,100
Sewer.....	250
Electricity.....	250
Postage.....	900
Insurance -	
Bond & Workmen's Compensation	850
Printing.....	900
Office & Clerical.....	6,000
Bank Charges.....	100
Security.....	250
Taxes.....	2,000
Architects Fee, Phase I.....	30,000
Reserve -	
Educational Endowment.....	24,000
Leadership Development and Education.....	10,000
Restoration Expense.....	168,950
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>262,500</b>

### **Restore & Preserve The Muhlenberg House Certificate Of Gift**

To help preserve and restore the Muhlenberg House, I/We enclose a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Historical Society of Trappe, in the name of \_\_\_\_\_

Street                      Town                      State/Zip

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to discuss with you the possibility of a larger gift.

*You have my permission to publish my name as a donor, without an amount: Yes  No*

Clip and mail to: **Historical Society of Trappe**  
P.O. Box 828, Collegeville, PA 19426  
A receipt will be sent to you in the mail.



# Flag Day Dinner

June 14th 7:00 P.M. Moorehead's Catering

Clip and mail to Mr. Norman Holcombe, 21 Main Street, Trappe, PA 19426

—Reservation Form—

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$15.00 each for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
The \$15.00 covers the turkey dinner, decorations, and incidental expenses.

\_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Office \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone



Historical Society Of Trappe, PA.  
P.O. Box 828  
Collegeville, Pennsylvania 19426

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Summer 1991 Newsletter  
*Please, Do Not Delay!*

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